

War Declaration Depends on Fate Of First Armed Ship in Barred Zone

ACT OF SINKING THREE SHIPS NOT TO CAUSE WAR

PRESIDENT AGAINST FORCING SITUATION

Has Questions Advisability of Calling Congress Together Before April 16. Feels That Program Does Not Call for Declaration of War at This Time—President and Cabinet Are Weighing Steps to Be Taken

State of War Exists

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 20.—Certain members of the cabinet freely declared this afternoon that a state of war exists between America and Germany. They indicated that the president's address to congress will say that a state of war has existed since the Angouquin was sunk.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 20.—

Actual declaration of war depends upon the fate of the first armed American ship which comes into contact with a German submarine or other vessel in the barred zone, it was declared here today.

President Wilson will not declare war as a result of the sinking of the three freighters last Saturday.

He is against forcing the situation, and questions the advisability of calling congress together before April 16. He feels that his program does not call for a declaration of war at this time.

The president and cabinet are discussing the steps this afternoon to be taken.

NEW YORK, March 20.—Captain Bore and members of his crew previously reported missing are safe at Glasgow, says a cablegram received from Borum and sent to his agents.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 20.—Confirmation that the City of Memphis was not warned before sunk has been received by the officials of the state department.

NEW YORK, March 20.—Rumors that orders for a German revolt were circulated in America two days ago are unconfirmed.

STRAHORN MAY START BEND WORK

SAYS THAT IF HE FINDS CONDITIONS SATISFACTORY MAY START RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION SOUTH FROM THERE

BEND, March 20.—That there is a prospect of beginning construction on the Oregon, California & Eastern out of Bend this summer was the report brought by Robert E. Strahorn, who arrived Saturday morning with Mrs. Strahorn to attend the opening of the new Pilot Butte Inn.

BUSINESS MEN LEAVE THURSDAY

WILL CANVASS SAN FRANCISCO AND SACRAMENTO BUSINESS FIRMS TO SECURE FINANCIAL AID FOR TERMINAL FUNDS

A committee of five business men of this city will leave Thursday for California to present Klamath's claim for help on the Strahorn terminal fund, according to President Eskelson of the Business Men's Association of this city.

The men who will make the trip are Fred Houston, J. W. Roberts, Percy Evans, Carl Plath and Paul Johnson.

This committee has a list of more than 200 San Francisco and California business men and firms which they will call upon and place before them the urgency of the Klamath region railroad situation, and the benefits to be derived by them by aiding in this work.

Captain J. W. Siemens, president of the Commercial Club, and Paul Johnson spent a week in San Francisco, placing the situation before the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, which body's sanction it was necessary to receive before it was possible to get the merchant's ears.

The matter has been under investigation by them, and favorable reports from their investigation have been received. The local committee of business men will spend some time now calling on the merchants for aid, and it is believed this campaign will complete the railroad terminal fund, the only step to be accomplished before Klamath is entirely ready for the railroad construction according to Robert E. Strahorn's plan.

not certain by any means," Mr. Strahorn said. "A number of matters have arisen since I made my first estimates of the cost of the road which will make the work more difficult than at first expected. Steel rails, for example, have advanced in price nearly \$20 a ton, adding several thousands per mile to the cost of the road. However, under certain conditions, which I shall investigate while here, it may be possible to proceed."

Asked about the reports emanating from San Francisco of an alliance between himself and the Hill lines and the possible construction of a line to Eureka, Calif., from Klamath Falls, and so on to San Francisco, Mr. Strahorn said that the O. C. & E. is still an independent line and has no connection with any other interest, and that there is absolutely nothing to the Eureka line story.

"San Francisco is so interested in the possibility of a connection with Eureka and especially in the Central Oregon line, that the newspapers there made a great fuss about the rumors that were flying around," Mr. Strahorn said.

In connection with local possibilities, Mr. Strahorn said that he was continually making additional connections, which gave further assurance of the success of the enterprise. He expects definitely to open the Portland campaign within the next ten days.

Wonder Why Not?

Considering the fact that the box social to be held in the west hall of I. O. F. Temple tomorrow night is creating so much interest among the ladies, it is strange that some of the retail merchants are not advertising trunks.

Down From Fort Klamath.

Clyde Short came down last night from Fort Klamath on a business trip to this city.

RUSSIA WILL BEND EVERY EFFORT

COUNCIL TAKES LAST STEP TO BUILD RAILROAD

\$300,000 BOND ORDINANCE IS UNANIMOUSLY PASSED

Bonds Expected to Arrive This Week From Bonding Firm to Be Signed by Mayor Crisler—Warrants Held and \$10,000 Paid on Them—Two Weeks to Wind Up All Details, But as Soon as Bonds Signed City is Ready to Make Building Contract

The city council unanimously passed the ordinance providing for the \$300,000 bond issue for the Klamath Falls to Dairy railroad, the last necessary step for the city government to take before it is ready to sign a contract for the work.

The bonds are expected to arrive this week from Spitzer-Rorick & Co. of Toledo, Ohio, which Mayor Crisler will sign before leaving for California the latter part of the week, he said last night. Captain J. W. Siemens, whose bid on the warrants for the bond issue was accepted by the council, paid \$10,000 down on the deal, and has sixty days to turn over the remainder of the sum.

City Attorney Groesbeck said last night that it will probably take about two weeks for the city to wind up all the details, but that as soon as the bonds are received and signed the city is in shape to make a contract for the construction of the railroad.

Robert E. Strahorn, who was here several days ago working over details with the council, is now in Bend, and is expected to arrive here shortly after his return to Portland, according to his plans when he was here. It is expected that his next trip will see the first steps taken for actual construction work, a date for which he has stated he is almost ready to announce.

While in Bend he is getting in touch with the situation, and has said that work may start out of Bend this summer if he finds things in condition to negotiate. Klamath people will watch Bend closely now, for it is of the utmost importance to Klamath Falls that Bend goes through with its proposition of raising the necessary funds and providing terminals and right of way, so that the line may be completed through from this city to Bend at as early a date as possible.

A petition presented the council last night by Joe McDonald to be given permission to remodel a building at 609 and 611 Main street with a new front, new floor and re-plastering was granted by the council. The work is estimated to cost \$400.

Mayor Crisler was authorized to secure two \$25 stop watches for the local police on his trip to California.

Vaudeville Leave Today

Angelo May and her troupe of vaudeville entertainers closed their three nights' engagement here last night at the Star theater, where they have appeared. They put on a clean, semi-classic dancing, musical and entertaining show. They will go from here to Dorris, and then on north.

GERMANS DESTROY EVERYTHING IN PATH OF RETREAT

PERONNE CHURCHES AND BUILDINGS DYNAMITED

British Soldiers Find Bottles, Cabinets and Helmets Filled With Explosives to Explode When Opened. Houses, Fences, Trees and Everything in Retreat From Roye is Wrecked—French Attacking Near

German Revolution Rumored LONDON, March 20.—A revolution in Germany is rumored here in financial circles, but has not been confirmed.

WITH THE BRITISH ARMY,

March 20.—The Germans destroyed Peronne before evacuating.

A sixteenth century church, national monuments and many of the principal buildings were destroyed, apparently by dynamite.

British soldiers are finding bottles, cabinets and helmets filled with explosives arranged to explode when opened.

PARIS, March 20.—

"Slight progress" is being made despite the bad weather, a French official statement says.

The Germans are destroying trees, houses, fences and everything in their retreat from Roye. They even entered the houses along the way and destroyed the furniture.

The French are fiercely attacking their rear.

MUCH WATER IS WASTED DAILY

That 540,000 gallons of water are wasted in this city daily is the statement of Carl Adams, who is in charge of the pumping plant of the California-Oregon Power company, to Kieth Ambrose, chief of the fire department during a consultation they held yesterday.

There is more water being used by Klamath Falls people at this time than during the summer months, said Mr. Adams, and the only explanation given is that many water users are allowing their water faucets to run all night to prevent freezing.

COMMITTEE WILL OUTLINE COURSE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPOINTS COMMITTEE TO WORK ON CONTRACT MADE BY THE GOVERNMENT FOR LEASING DITCH

A committee of three members of the Klamath Water Users Association will outline a course of action to be taken by the association on the recent contract made between the government and the California-Oregon Power company, was the result of the meeting of the board of directors of the association in this city Saturday and yesterday.

This committee will meet and be prepared to report at the next meeting of the board of directors, which is to be held here on the first Saturday in April.

The contract between the government and the power company provides for the leasing of the Keno Irrigation ditch on the west side of Link River for a term of years, gives the power company the right to make improvements subject to the approval of the reclamation service, and also the privilege of erecting a dam at the head of the river.

The board of directors of the water users association believes that since they have contributed thousands of dollars to the upkeep and maintenance of the canal as well as furnishing security to the extent of over \$1,000,000 to the reclamation service when they began work in this country, that the water users have an interest in the canal, and should have been consulted before a contract was made leasing the canal to anyone, according to Albert E. Elder, secretary of the board of directors.

The board also feels that the action on the part of the government for the use of this canal by the power company given by the contract was made with the intention of a perpetual use of the canal for power purposes, according to Mr. Elder.

Mr. Elder said today that the steps to be taken by the water users association are not entirely completed and it is not desired to make a definite announcement at this time.

Former Resident Is Married.

Word has been received in this city announcing the marriage of Mrs. Rose Soule, formerly of Klamath Falls, to James E. Bratton of Indiana, Sunday March 18th. The wedding ceremony took place at the home of the bride's father at Pomona, Calif., where Mrs. Soule has been residing since she left Klamath Falls. Mrs. Soule's husband met a tragic death here when thrown off a wagon on Ewauna Heights several years ago. Mrs. Soule still owns considerable Klamath property.

Here for Stock Feed.

J. L. Fordney, Langell Valley farmer, is in town today, and has three teams with which he will haul hay and grain for stock which needs to be fed badly in the Langell Valley district.

Gospel Services Tonight

Tonight's discourse at the Gospel hall, "Where is Hell, Are Your Friends There?" will mark the beginning of the fifth week of the evangelistic series. The interest continues unabated.

SIEMENS URGES THAT SUPPORT BE GIVEN TO CLUB

MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO RUN IN DEBT

Klamath Commercial Club Had Approximately 75 Paying Members Last Year and Existed on Less Than \$2,000, According to President Siemens—Unless the People Give the Club Better Support, Obligations Will Be Too Great to Exist

The Klamath Commercial Club operated during the past year with the support of about 75 paying members," according to Captain J. W. Siemens, president.

"The activities of the club were kept alive on less than \$2,000, which was received from membership fees and subscriptions," he said today.

"This year, however, the people of Klamath Falls must give the club better support, or it will run in debt, and the directors are determined not to permit this. We will close up shop first," said President Siemens.

A year lies ahead with much more work to accomplish than last. This takes money, and the fact that this year promises to be fuller of activities than any previous year for a long time, makes it necessary that the Commercial Club must be given more support.

The board of directors of the Commercial Club will start a membership campaign tomorrow for new members and the directors believe there are 100 or more people in Klamath Falls that ought and can take out memberships in the Commercial Club.

Commercial Clubs and Chambers of Commerce are rapidly becoming more and more important instruments in the "live" cities and towns of the country. Every city or town of any size that is in a healthy condition and that boasts of any opportunities for capital, investment or even a good climate, is supporting some such organization. The more solid the community the more solid is the commercial organization, where the various business, civic and general interests for the welfare of the city are combined for co-operation and work.

The board of directors feel that Klamath Falls cannot miss such an opportunity to place upon a permanent basis at this time an organization which can and will grow with the city. And as Klamath Falls becomes more and more a center for a number of varied industries, an organization that will safeguard and act in the capacity of a stabilizer as well as placing in the proper places the facts and information that will attract the home-seeker, the business man, capital and industries.

Hay Rate Received

A rate on hay from Willamette Valley points of 30 cents per 100 or \$6 a ton will go into effect April 1st on the Southern Pacific. J. G. Stubbs, general freight agent at San Francisco, has notified the local office.

SPEEDY VICTORY IN WAR DESIRED

AMERICA PREPARING TO RECOGNIZE REGIME

Information Received at Stockholm Says Russian Troops in Control of Helsinki in Finland—Admiral Njoceton and Fourteen Naval Officers Killed—New Russian Government Has Support of Army

PETROGRAD, March 20.—"The provisional government will use every energy at hand, and with the unanimous consent of the nation will effect a speedy victory in the European war," Foreign Minister Mikuloff declared today.

"Our problems are now immense, and we will have to build a whole new national edifice. But, in so doing, we will enormously strengthen our moral forces to obtain the victory," he said.

The friendliness of the people toward Grand Duke Nicholas has been cemented by the information received that he induced Czar Nicholas to abdicate.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 20.—America is preparing to recognize the new Russian government when the regime is definitely re-established, it was learned today.

The new Russian government has the support of the army and navy, Ambassador Francis reports.

STOCKHOLM, March 20.—Information received here says that the Russian troops are in control of the Helsinki in Finland, following the revolution riots.

The gendarmie of Finland has been abolished, and the Finns have expressed confidence in the new regime, official dispatches say.

HIGHER FREIGHT RATES WANTED

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 20.—Congress will be asked to legislate to provide increased freight rates to cover the increased payroll as a result of the supreme court decision upholding the Adamson law yesterday, railroad officials announced today.

"The supreme court decided that congress has the power to fix the trainmen's wages, and so it has the right to legislate on railroad rates," a government official said.

The eight hour commission's work, which stopped when the railroads eschewed the operation of the Adamson law, will be resumed. It will gather data on the effect of the law, and will have it ready to submit the information to congress when it reconvenes.

NEW YORK, March 20.—

The managers of the railroad brotherhoods are conferring and preparing 400 separate agreements which are to be presented, and will cover the various railroads on the strike agreement.